

## THE QUESTORS THEATRE

### Its easy to join...

- Come to the main office during office hours.
- Join us in the Grapevine Bar at The Questors Theatre on a Wednesday at 8pm for a free guided tour and a drink on us.
- Pick up a membership form from the foyer
- Call 020 8567 0011 during office hours
- Find out more at [www.questors.org.uk](http://www.questors.org.uk)

### Questors membership (there are 3 categories) gives you...

#### Company member:

- 50% discount on your ticket (excluding Christmas Shows)
- Ticket reservation facility (conditions apply)
- Special offers & invitations
- Club Magazine and monthly mailing
- The chance to act, direct and get involved backstage or with front of house
- Membership of The Grapevine Club

#### Playgoer Member:

- 20% discount on your ticket (excluding Christmas Shows)
- Regular monthly mailing
- Membership of The Grapevine Club

#### Friend:

- Regular monthly mailing
- Membership of The Grapevine Club

#### Discounts at:

Holmes Place, Butlers restaurant, Ealing Dance Centre, Monty's Tandoori

#### Three ways to book tickets:

- Ring our Box Office on 020 8567 5184 or call in and collect tickets  
Open Mon – Fri 11.00am to 1.00pm, Show Nights & Wednesdays  
6.45pm to 8.30pm, Sunday Matinees 2.00pm - 2.30pm
- Fill in a booking form (included with diary notes) and return to Box Office
- Book online at [www.questors.org.uk](http://www.questors.org.uk)

Box Office: 020 8567 5184  
Admin: 020 8567 0011  
Fax: 020 8567 8736  
Email: [enquiries@questors.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@questors.org.uk)  
Website: [www.questors.org.uk](http://www.questors.org.uk)

The Questors Theatre  
Mattock Lane  
Ealing  
W5 5BQ

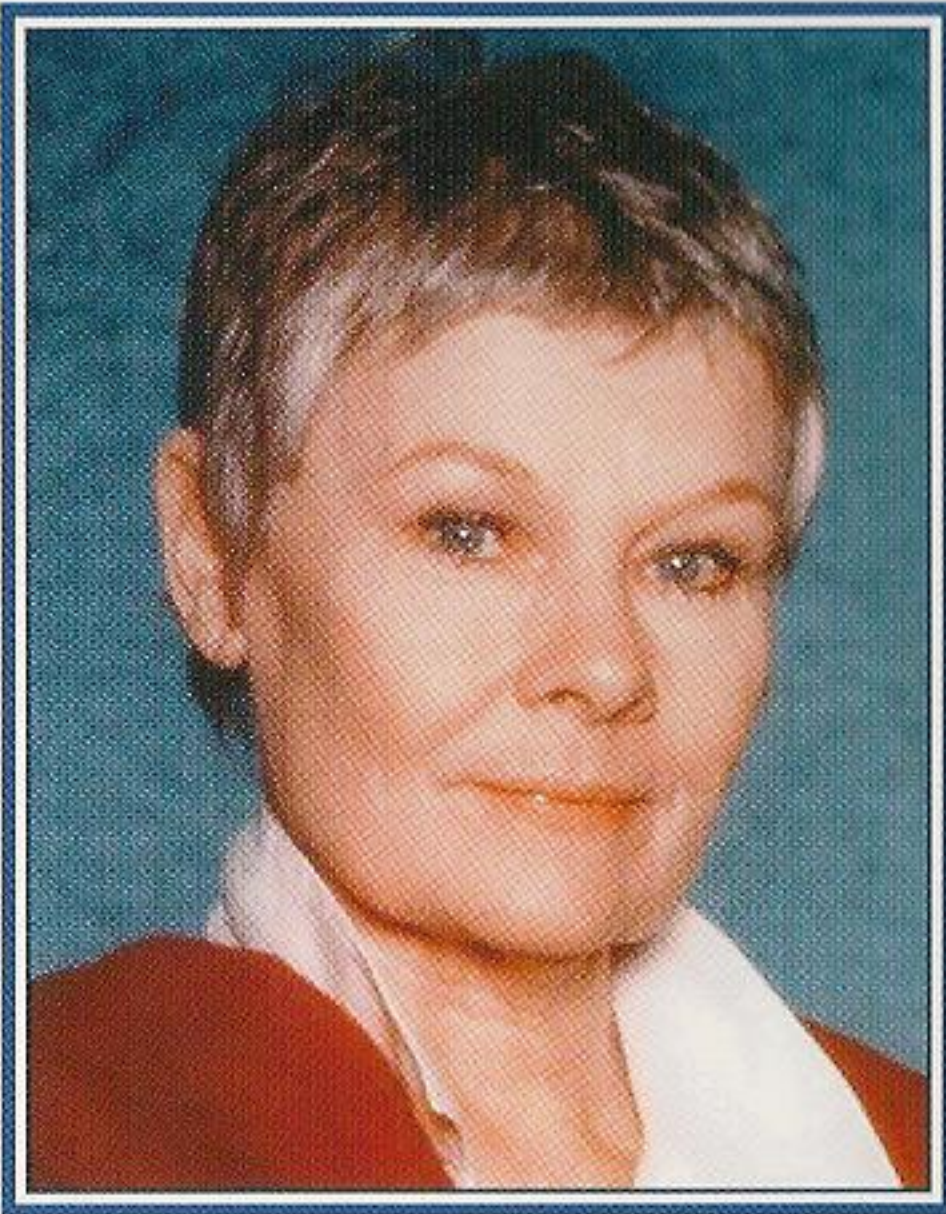


Seascape and Charade

  
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**Welcome** to The Questors Theatre, one of London's best kept secrets - except to its 2,500 members. How do I know about the Questors? I am proud to have been their President for over 20 years. Founded in 1929, it has since grown into the largest community theatre in Europe with a reputation for the highest standards, not only in acting but in direction and design as well. Luckily, with so many members, we have a wealth of talent to call on for all aspects of production and members are encouraged to be as actively involved as they would like. Alternatively, they simply enjoy the social side of the club, including the friendly Grapevine Bar (one of the many perks of



membership) and the many and varied shows in our 350 seater Playhouse Theatre and our more intimate Studio Theatre.

The Questors runs a professionally recognised two-year acting course in conjunction with Kingston College. There are also acting courses for beginners, free backstage training courses, visiting companies from home and abroad, regular art exhibitions, and workshops and clubs for young people. In short, there is something for everyone and with annual membership from £12.00 - £47.50 depending upon level of commitment it's great value for money as well.

But don't just take my word for it, the next time you're in West London call into The Grapevine Bar on any Wednesday evening at 8pm for a free tour of the theatre and a drink on us!

Worth looking into?

Definitely!

Dame Judi Dench  
President of The Questors Theatre

# Seascape and Charade

by Tony Rushforth





## ***Seascape and Charade by Tony Rushforth***

### **Charade**

'Charade' is set in contemporary West Yorkshire. Here I return to my small town northern roots where family and close friends were actively involved in their operatic society. Quite often a production would be mounted in a nearby professional theatre, which was prestigious for the society and gave them a kind of 'professional' status. Although the Stansfield family are fictitious, I have affectionately known such people, respected pillars of the local community.

If anyone has influenced my approach to ***Charade*** it is J. B. Priestley. My characters struggle to keep up appearances rather like the characters in Priestley's morality play ***An Inspector Calls*** which was a favourite with many northern weekly rep companies. Walter Turnbull (who first appeared in my full-length play ***Close-Up***) has some affinity with the reporter in Priestley's ***When We Are Married***. I saw this play so many times in my youth, every village and small town did it because it reflected their world and was so easy to type cast – the actors didn't really have to act at all.

Many of Priestley's plays were popular in West Yorkshire not only because of their characters and setting but also because he was born in Bradford and became president of the Bradford Civic Playhouse, where some of his plays were premiered. Many years ago I directed and acted at the Playhouse and one of their acclaimed actors was Peter Cariss who is now playing Charlie in ***Charade***!

Once again I have to thank the actors in both of my plays that contributed considerably and quickly adjusted to the final revisions to the texts. I am very grateful to them.

### **Seascape**

At the outbreak of the Second World War there were approximately 75,000 people of Germanic origin living in Britain and Whitehall decided to set up Enemy Alien Tribunals to screen these 'potential security risks'. However, the first grading was a somewhat rough and ready business and serious mistakes were made. The entry

of Italy into the war almost doubled the workload. The Isle of Man was chosen as the one place sufficiently removed from areas of military importance where internees could be placed, but by the end of 1940 the number of 'enemy aliens' on the island had reached 14,000.

Against this historical backdrop I have set the play in Port Erin. This internment camp was where the women, young people and the elderly were placed. This idea for writing the play came from my wife who spent her childhood during the Second World War with her brothers and sisters in Port Erin. Doing research, I was surprised that only one significant book (***Island of Barbed Wire*** by Connery Chapell) had been written about this period, hence talking to local people was of considerable value in addition to spending time in Port Erin. An earlier version of ***Seascape*** was actually presented in the Arts Centre in Port Erin but sadly I was unable to attend.

Of course the plot is fictional and counterpoints the relationship between two couples, one teenage and one middle-aged, that is heightened because of the harsh, disorientating and transient world of the internee camp. It was somewhat unnerving, almost 'spooky', when at the first rehearsal I learned that Maria Brusa's late Italian father (Maria plays Magda) had actually been interned in the Isle of Man.

Author's notes by Tony Rushforth

### ***Hello Dolly***

***Hello Dolly*** was first seen in London at Theatre Royal Drury Lane in 1965 with Mary Martin playing the lead. It was revived at Drury Lane in 1981 with Carol Canning. This autumn sees some ten amateur operatic groups in the U.K presenting ***Hello Dolly***, ranging from the Town Hall in Falkirk to the Cliffs pavilion in Southend-on-Sea.

### **National Operatic and Dramatic Association (N.O.D.A)**

N.O.D.A. was established in 1899 with a membership of fifty-seven groups and now has a membership of over 2400 amateur musical theatre groups.



# Seascape and Charade

by Tony Rushforth  
First performance 2 November 2005

## Cast - Charade

Monnie	Kate Allen
Olive	Margaret Turner
Charlie	Peter Cariss
Wendy	Mari King
Walter Turnbull	John Hines

Interval (20 mins)

## Cast - Seascape

Mary	Zoe Mortimer
Hans	Tom Piccin
Magda	Maria Brusa
Kurt	Tony Barber

Running Time: 2 hours 20 mins

## Charade

*Place:* Charlie and Olive Stansfield's garden in West Yorkshire  
*Time:* Early Summer, Saturday afternoon

## Seascape

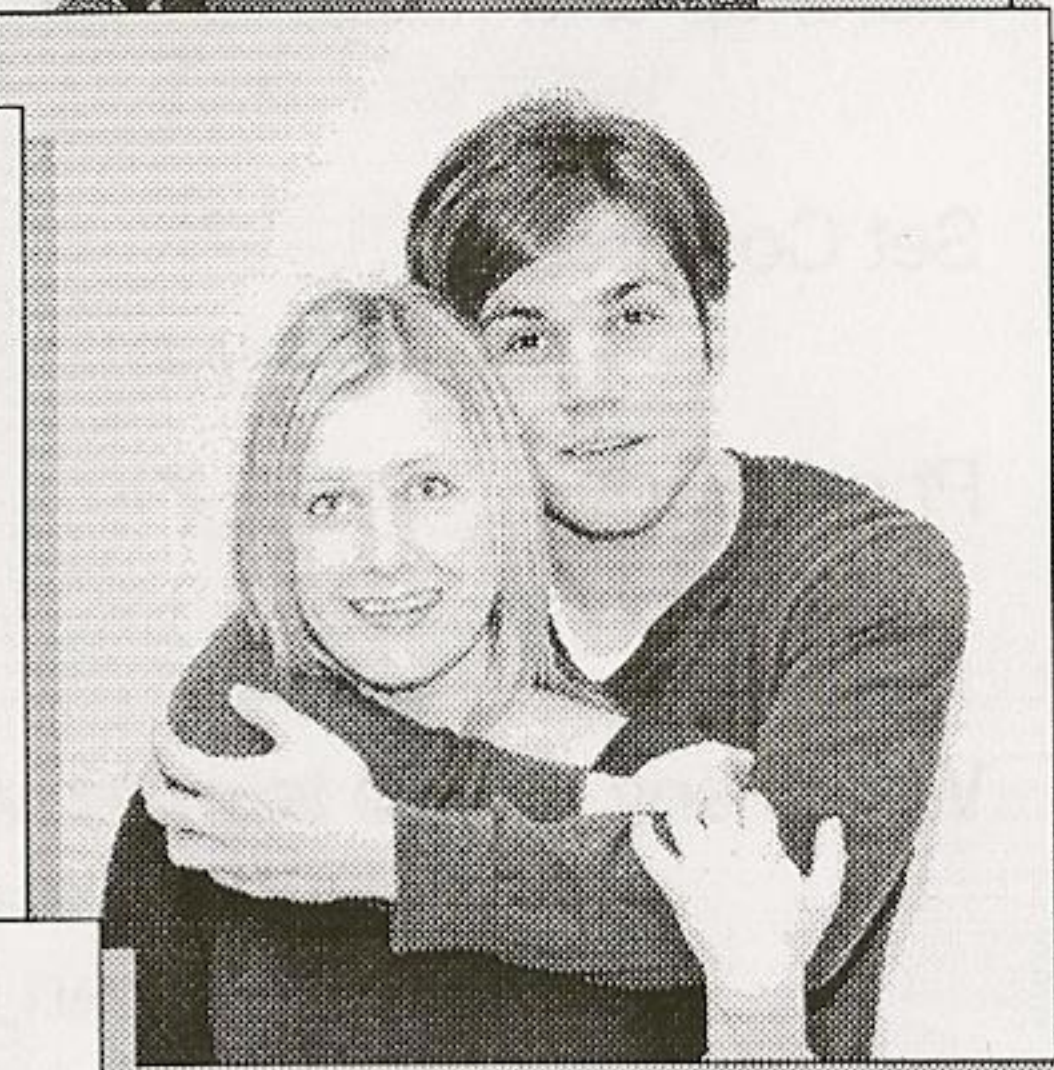
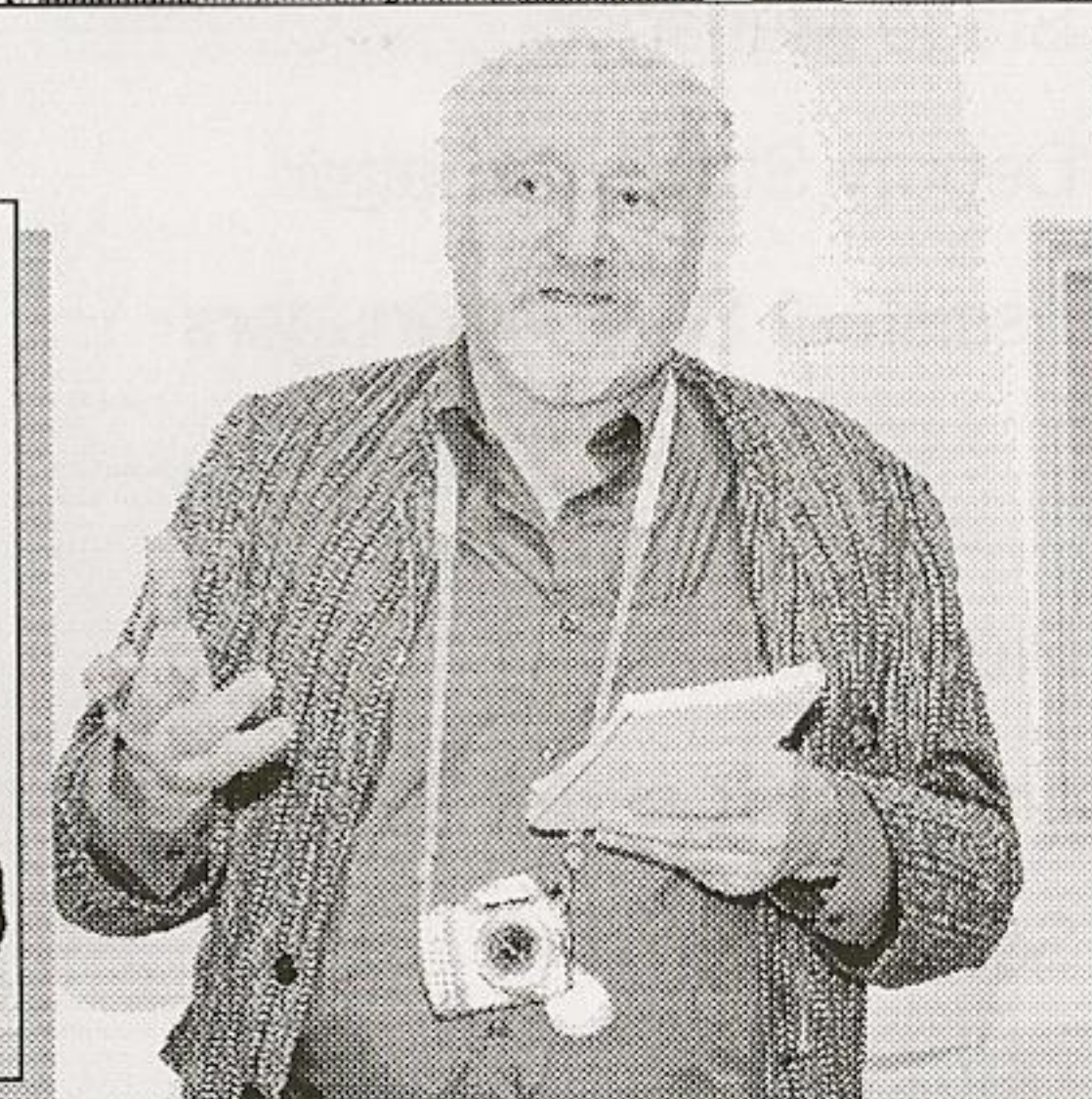
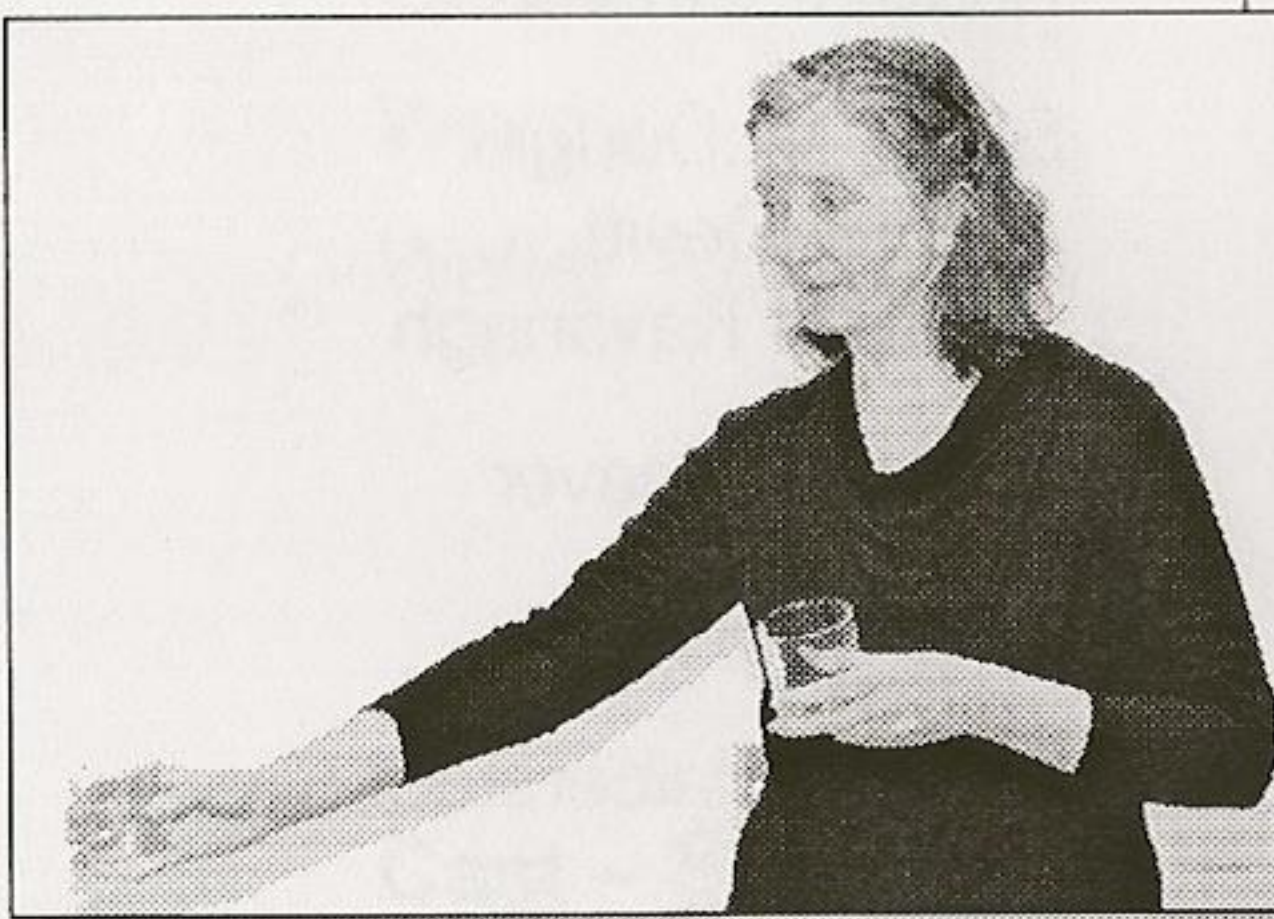
*Place:* The Isle of Man - Port Erin  
*Time:* Early Summer - 1940

## Production Team

Director	Tony Rushforth
Set Designers & Scenic Artists	Bron Blake Jenny Richardson
Lighting & Sound Designer	Alan N Smith
Costume Designer	Nichola Thomas
Stage Manager	Sylvia Wall
Deputy Stage Manager	Bridgett Strevens
Assistant Stage Managers	Sarah McDougall Alex McDevitt Stephen Kavanagh
Properties	Michelle Weaver
Lighting Operator	Roger Kelly
Sound Operator	Richard Halberstadt
Make up and hair	Kate Griffiths Lucy Randall
Set Construction	Tina Harris Gordon Miller
Photography	David Mosby

With many thanks to Alec Atchison, Danny Bailey, Raymond Child, Aalin Cunningham, Simon Dalglish, Jean Derby, Dennis Dracup, Tim Edwards, Andrew Fletcher, Mike Hagan, Tony Hill, Colin Horne, Tessa Ingram, Doug King, Francois Langton, David Lapham, Julia Matcham, Geoff Moore, Sue Peckitt, Mark Pemberton, Pam Piccin, Maureen Plunkett-Jones, Mary Rushforth, Adrienne Talbot, John Webster, Isle of Man Tourist Board, National Operatic and Dramatic Association





*L to R from top*  
 Kate Allen- Peter Cariss  
 Mari King- John Hines  
 Margaret Turner- Zoe Mortimer & Tim Piccin  
 Maria Brusa & Tony Barber

*Picture Credits: David Mosby and Ian Cole*

# COMING SOON

**In The Studio**  
 November 26 to December 3 at 7.45pm,  
 Matinée 2.30pm

The Questors Theatre presents

## RUR

by Karel Čapek

**RUR:** We are entering a Brave New World: thanks to the wonders of the scientific progress, we can now manufacture human beings to order, the population of the world is no longer dependent on biological reproduction, and the working class is finally freed from it's shackles of drudging labour. The year is 1920 and this is Karel Čapek's utopic vision of a bold new future of a manmade Eden where mass-produced robots relieve mankind from the burden of working for mere survival. But when man starts to play God, his creations turn out to have minds of their own.



**In The Playhouse**  
 December 17, 18, 31 at 2.00pm & 4.00pm,  
 December 27, 28, 29, 30 at 2.00pm

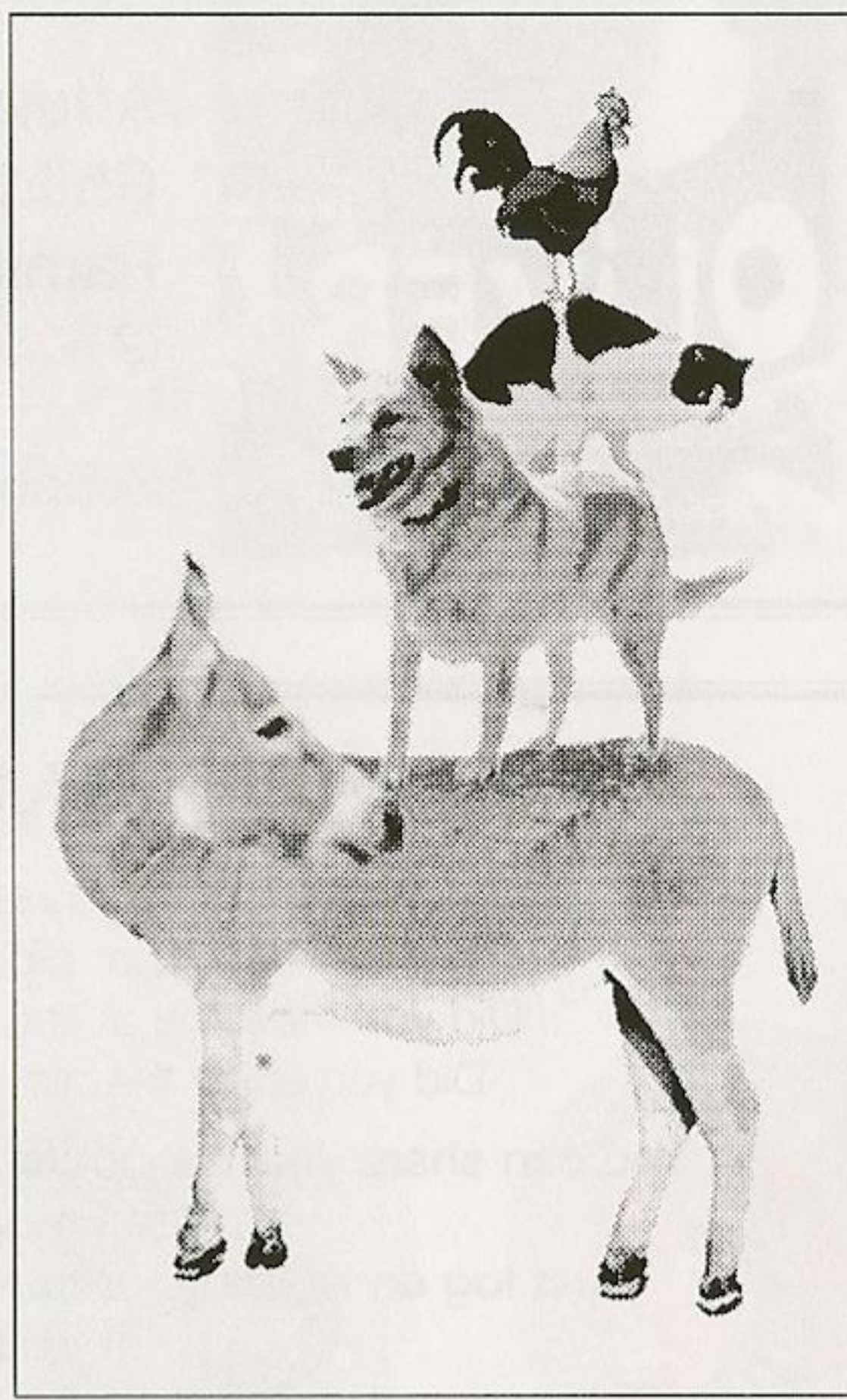
The Questors Theatre presents

## The Four Friends

by Vicky Ireland adapted from the Grimm Brothers story The Bremen Town Musicians

**The Four Friends**  
 Suitable for the under 7's

A donkey was growing unfit to work, so he decides to run away and become a town musician. Along the road he meets a hunting dog and the pair travel on and meet a cat that has run away, from a cruel mistress who was planning to drown him. The three fugitives reach a farmyard where a cock sits on a gate, crowing with all his might – the cook is planning to make him into soup the very next day! The four friends continue on to Bremen and happen across a house occupied by robbers. The animals decide to trick the robbers. Come along to The Questors to see what the four friends do next.



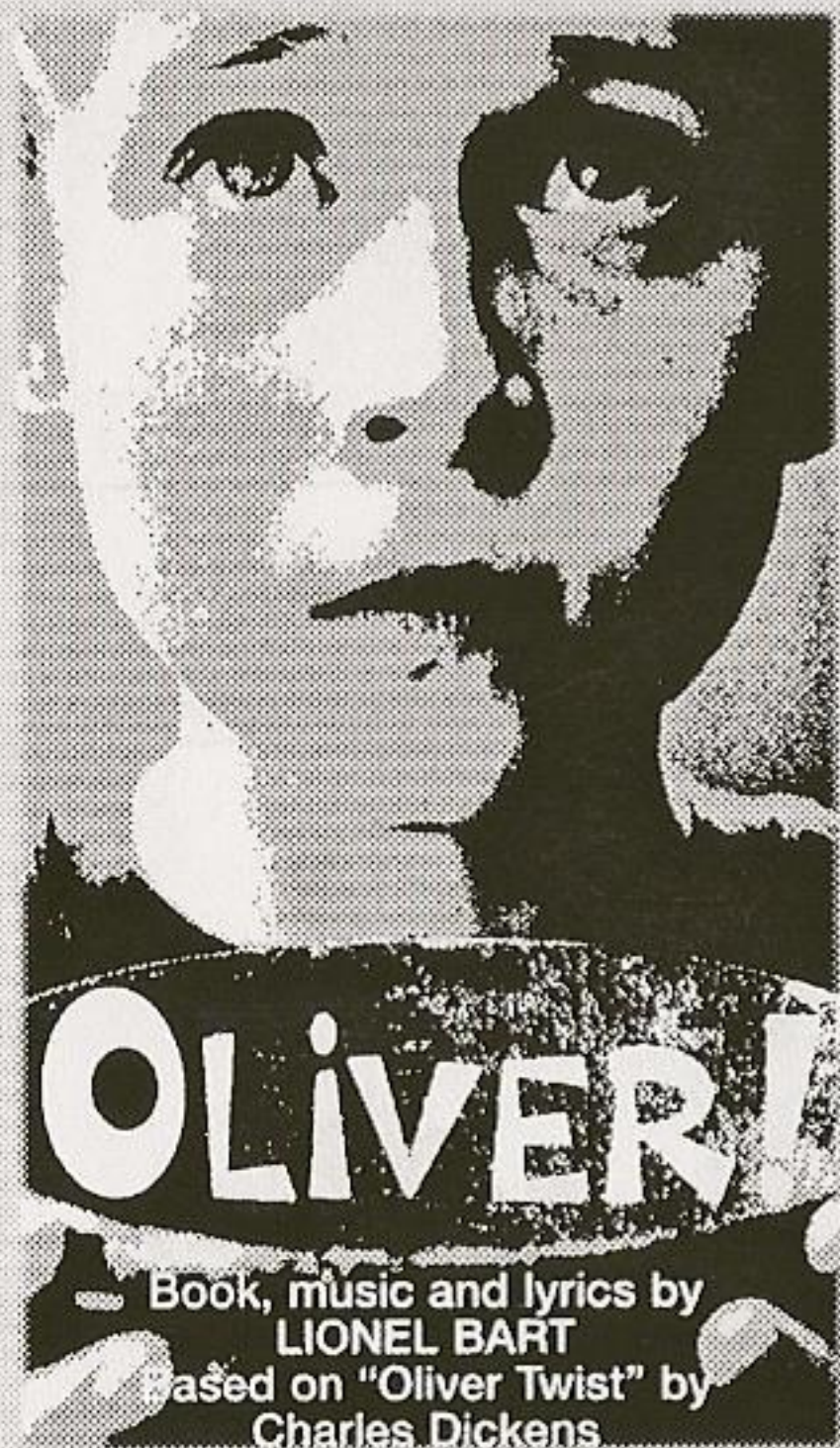


## Art Exhibitions

in the Grapevine Bar  
**Welcoming back**  
for a return visit Sue Stamper Iveson

November 5 – 19 2005  
**SUE STAMPER IVESON**

If anyone is interested in holding an exhibition at The Questors and would like further details, please contact Jane Mason on 020 8567 0011 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays.



### in The Playhouse

Dec 15, 16, at 7.45pm, 17 at 2.30pm & 7.45pm,  
18 at 2.30pm, 21, 22, 23 at 7.45pm,  
27 at 2.30pm & 7.45pm, 28, 29, 30 at 7.45pm,  
31 at 2.30pm,  
Jan 2 at 2.30pm & 7.45pm,  
5, 6 at 7.45pm, 7 at 2.30pm & 7.45pm

**Adults** £11.00,  
**Children** £7.00,  
**Family Ticket** £30.00  
(2 adults & 2 children)

Supported by  **Merchant & Co.**

## BECOME A CRITIC!

Did you like the Questors show you have just seen?  
Did you hate it, or did it raise some interesting issues?  
Did you think the acting was brilliant or the set surprising?  
Did you enjoy the play or did you find it hard to follow?

You can share your thoughts with us, or read what others have said,  
at [www.questors.org.uk](http://www.questors.org.uk)  
Just log on - type your comments - and click the SEND button.  
It couldn't be easier.

## Get the most from your membership

Many members join just to see shows, but there is so much else you can do, why not get involved?

Front of house is a great place to start. For programme selling, stewarding or serving in the Café you don't need any experience, and training can be given for anyone who fancies working in Box Office. If you want to meet people and have a good time, then the best place to be is behind the Grapevine Bar - you can volunteer for just one night or many.

Backstage staff, including stage managers, prop makers painters and wardrobe staff, are always welcomed and whatever your skills we'll find a place for you. If you have some experience then The Questors is a wonderful place to be a designer, but even if you don't you can help out on shows and you're sure to get some hands-on experience. The same goes for lighting and sound - the theatre is well equipped and a good place to learn.

You can direct if you have some experience or training, but if not then you can always look out for our training opportunities. The Questors has a high standard of acting and to maintain this anyone wanting to act will need to take an audition. These are held every month - please call the main office for details.

There are numerous other things you can do to help out. If you're free in the daytimes you can help out with envelope stuffing or delivering leaflets, and if you're a bit of a handy man or woman then there are always little jobs to be done.

If you'd like more information about active membership, you can ring the office on 020 8567 0011, Mon to Fri, 9.30 - 5.30, email us on [enquiries@questors.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@questors.org.uk)

